

PERTUSSIS CASE MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL

-Attempt two phone calls (one early and one late) on two different days. Then, send a letter. If no response in two weeks, close.

-Complete case investigation form

Public health recommends that antibiotic treatment for pertussis be provided under the following guidelines:

Treat regardless of the duration of illness:

- Infants under the age of 1
- Pregnant women
- Patients with ongoing, close contact with infants under the age of 1 or pregnant women (e.g., parents and caregivers of infants, daycare workers, pediatricians)

For all others, limit antibiotic treatment to those who are within three weeks of the onset of their illness.

-Contact investigation

1- Recommend prophylaxis only for households (even if asymptomatic) that have a one-year old (or younger) or a pregnant woman in the third trimester. Pregnant clients should always seek care through their provider.

- A. (Preferred option) Advise them to contact their provider for medication
- B. (Next option) Utilize standing orders to call in prescription. (Discuss with a supervisor first).
- C. (Last option) Call in Erythromycin for SLVHD to pay. (Discuss with a supervisor first).

2- If a contact meets the case definition criteria, then open them as a new case.

3- If a contact has symptoms but does not meet the case definition criteria (yet):

- A. (Preferred option) Advise them to get tested.
- B. (Next option) Advise them to call provider for prophylaxis.
- C. (Last option) Utilize standing orders to call in prescription. (Discuss with a supervisor first).

4- Only list contacts on the contact forms if they are symptomatic or have received prophylaxis. This includes those who received prophylaxis from another source prior to referral.

5- In chart notes, acknowledge all settings in which contact inquiries were made and document pertinent negatives ie. No contacts ill at church, work, or school.

6- If a letter needs to be sent to a setting outside the household, discuss with a supervisor first. The letter will only advise symptomatic contacts to be evaluated and provide education regarding vaccination.

- A follow up phone call needs to be done two weeks after the initial call:

- 1- To ensure the index case meets the case definition criteria (in some situations)
- 2- To ensure the index case took the antibiotics
- 3- To determine if any of the questionable contacts now meet the case definition criteria.

During the initial interview, explain a follow up call will be placed in two weeks and ask for the best time and phone number to reach them. Attempt two phone calls and then close.